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THE DRAWERS, as illustrated, are splendidly made, being cut as to fit perfectly smooth around waist; also other new styles finely trimmed Corset Covers, Gowns, and full-cut Skirts; cut to fit smooth around waist. These garments cannot be matched under 50c. or 65c. Choice for.....

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Regular price \$3.00

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R. & G. C. B. and W. C. Corsets

75c

Regular price \$1.00

THE UNBREAKABLE HIP

The Big Southeast Store

KEY WEST, ISLAND OUTPOST

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Key West, Fla., Jan. 11.—Key West is the southernmost city of the United States. It is built on a little island far off the mainland, but it is the county seat of Monroe County, Fla., which includes most of the Florida Keys, a portion of the mainland, and the uncharted and uncounted little islands of the archipelago known as the Ten Thousand Islands. In the popular mind Key West is associated with cigars. Cigar-making is the principal business of the city, and furnishes a livelihood for a majority of the 20,000 inhabitants. For many years Key West was the principal center for the manufacture of high-grade cigars in the United States, but Tampa has taken over that glory. Key West makes as many cigars as ever, but Tampa makes more.

The cigar business, however, is not the principal item of importance in reckoning the value of Key West as an American city. It is a populous island outpost, situated in a position of great strategic strength. The fortifications at Fort Jefferson, in the Dry Tortugas, are more formidable, but Fort Jefferson is nothing but a fortification. Key West has Fort Taylor and a naval station, and it also has population. Many of its people are Cubans, thousands of them speaking Spanish, but they are nearly all American in spirit. Key West is close to Havana, only ninety miles by the sailing course.

The Panama Canal will be completed in a few years. The American people confidently expect that it will mean a great deal to the commerce of the nation and the world, and it is with that confidence that they are taxing themselves to construct it. But it is entirely possible that the age of war is not over; that there may be another great clash of armed nations in which the United States will take part, and in which the Panama Canal will play an important part. Four hundred years ago the island of Cuba was recognized as the strategic key to the command of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. Cuba is not American territory, but the United States has naval stations there which give this country military control over it in case of international war.

Key West occupies a position of commanding strength just to the north of Cuba. When the canal is finished it will lie in the path of the newly directed commerce. If war should come it would be one of the strong positions for the defense of the seas which command the canal at the Atlantic side. Before the canal is completed there will be railroad connection to Key West. Troops may then be rushed by fast train to a point within four or five hours of Havana, and supplies may be dispatched by fast freight directly to the supply ships which are actually at work on the Gulf station.

The military importance of Key West was thoroughly demonstrated during our own civil war. Key West was always in the hands of the Federals, and it was the chief asset of the navy in enforcing and maintaining the blockade of the Gulf ports of the Confederate States. The harbor at Key West is a good one for commercial purposes, although it is not ideally adapted to the uses of the modern navy. As a supply depot, however, it is perfect. In modern warfare the problem of quick and untrammelled transportation of supplies is of even greater importance at certain stages of action than actual fighting ability. The new railroad to Key West will make that city what it was during the civil war, the most valuable outpost on the Gulf of Mexico.

Key West has been accustomed to the shock of war for centuries, although the city is less than a hundred years old. When the Spanish conquistadores first came to this part of the world, the southern portion of Florida was inhabited by the Calos Indians, a tribe which had attained a higher degree of civilization than most of the North American Indians. They accepted the Spaniards, received their missionaries, and embraced the Christian religion. Ruins of an old Calos church are yet to be seen in the heart of the Everglades.

Then came the Seminoles. In the Creek language the word "semimole" means "runaway" or "vagabond." The Seminoles had run away from the Creek nation to the north and invaded Florida. They were more valiant in war than the peaceful and agricultural Calos tribe. A long war began, and the Seminoles drove their enemies from the mainland to a refuge on the keys. The Seminoles learned the craft of the sea and gave pursuit. Finally, the remnants of the Calos people took refuge on the island which is now called Key West.

Here they made the last stand. The Seminoles came in great numbers, and when the battle was over the Calos nation was a thing of the past. A few fugitives embarked in canoes and, as if by miracle, crossed the rough Gulf Stream and landed in Cuba. The dead were left on the field of battle and, years afterward, the Spanish came and found their bleaching bones.

Whereupon the island was given the name of "Cayo Huesos," or Bone Key. In time, English and American sailors, some of them pirates, began to frequent the hospitable island. They heard the Spanish name and, being guided by the ear rather than the eye, they corrupted the name into "Key West."

For many years the island was a rendezvous for the piratical craft which infested the Spanish Main. When the piracy business was ended by a concert of the nations, it was left alone in its primitive tropical glory. In 1825, the Spanish government, in return for distinguished services, granted the island to Juan P. Selas. The transfer of Florida to the United States was arranged in 1823, in extinguishment of the American claim of \$5,000,000 for damages inflicted upon American shipping by Spanish war

vessels. Selas sold his island in 1821 to John W. Simonton, of Mobile, who organized a syndicate composed of Mobile merchants and the American consular officers at Havana. It was the purpose of these men to devote the island to salt manufacture, and it was immediately settled for that purpose.

The United States took formal possession of the island in 1822. The flag was raised by Capt. Perry, the same who afterward gained immortality by opening the empire of Japan to intercourse with the outside world. Capt. Perry declared that the island was an invaluable asset for the navy, and as a military outpost. We named it "Thompson," in honor of the then Secretary of the Navy, and the baby town he called "Fort Rodgers," in honor of Commodore Rodgers, then president of the Navy Board. But these names did not catch on, and the English corruption of "Cayo Huesos" was adopted by everybody. It has given rise to the error, which is the worst of the worst, of the name of the Florida keys, but otherwise it is just as good a name as any.

The first cigar factory in the United States was established in Key West in 1821, and practically all of its output was exported to England. The business prospered, and by 1840 had become more important than the salt industry, which soon died out. The business grew slowly until after the civil war, when better shipping connections gave the cigar-makers access to American markets. The business increased by leaps and bounds, so that by 1890 Key West was the cigar manufacturing center of the country, second only to Havana in the whole world.

If the railroad had come to Key West in that day the cigar supremacy probably would have stayed there, and the city would now have 100,000 inhabitants. But Tampa got the railroad, built cigar factories, and after a long struggle outdistanced its rival. For thirty or forty years Key West was the largest and most prosperous city of the State.

Realizing that a railroad connection would enable it to retain its predominant importance, Key West has been trying for years to obtain the boon which it will receive within the next two years. The first survey for a railroad to Key West was made in 1896, over practically the same route as that chosen by the Florida East Coast Railway extension. It was made in connection with a survey for a land telegraph line. In the following year, however, the city obtained cable connection and was made a station on the ocean cable which connected the United States with Cuba and Jamaica.

Other railroad surveys were made and many schemes were laid, but all were abandoned because there was no one with \$15,000,000 or \$20,000,000 who cared to invest in what seemed to be a most doubtful railroad experiment. The sugar and other staple exports of Cuba went to Europe, and the Cuban freight business did not hold out the alluring prospects which it does to-day.

Key West is the farthest south of any American city, if exception is made of the insular possessions. It is almost within the tropic zone, and its climate is tropical, but it has the compensating benefits of the trade winds, so that in summer the thermometer never goes higher than 90 degrees and in winter rarely below 50 degrees. At first the settlement suffered because the climate was so moist that it was impossible to keep fresh meats. The invention of artificial refrigeration and the ice machine, the work of a Florida man, changed all that. The danger from yellow fever has been reduced to a minimum by modern science, so that Key West is quite habitable.

Commercially and strategically important as an outpost in the southern sea, Key West has other claims to attention. Here may be found the exquisite beauty of the tropical ocean, the tropical sky, and the tropical land, a constantly shifting picture painted by the God of things as they are for the people who dwell in the islands of the tropical seas.

(Copyright, 1909, by Frederic J. Haskin.)

To-morrow—The Tropical Town of Tampa.

The Southern method of cooking sweet potatoes has gained widespread popularity in the North, but few cooks, amateur or professional, know how to get these right.

It is an imitation of the real thing, just as the Northern dish of strawberry shortcake is.

Even at high-priced restaurants, where one pays a neat little sum of money for sweet potatoes in Southern style, one does not get the toothsome dish that is served almost daily from Richmond to Tallahassee.

The potatoes are there, but the juice, the candy, the softness, are all left out. Sometimes this is from carelessness as well as ignorance.

Cooks will not take the time to do the work slowly and well. The correct recipe is as follows:

Boil together a half cup of sugar and a pint of water until it spins a heavy thread. After the sweet potatoes are boiled tender in their skins take them out, peel them, slice them and lay them in a baking pan with the flat side up; pour over the potatoes the sugar and water. Place these in a hot oven until the potatoes are slightly brown. If brown sugar is used instead of white the candied effect will be much better and more palatable.

This should be served in the pan in which it is cooked; therefore, it is wise to use one of the brown and white earthen dishes.

FROM WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW.

The great business world offers splendid opportunities for young men and women—if they will only take them seriously and make them steps in a life work. Flitting from one occupation to another is neither wholesome nor remunerative, and securing a footing where there are benefits and sick funds is safeguarding the future as surely as the uncertain nature of mortality permits.

I know of many stores where Thanksgiving turkeys and Christmas presents are supplemented by profit-sharing during the holidays, and sometimes all the year through. I have found one place where changes occur only at the call of marriage and death. There is, at least, one department store—possibly many more—where a little paper is published once a month by the employees, for whose benefit there is a sick fund maintained in various pleasant ways, such as theatricals and dancing parties.

One of the maxims of the place is, "Keep your eyes and ears open and shut your mouth," and the value of this advice is proved by the graduates who go out into the world each year and blaze out a path to success. I found a salesgirl the other day who was so sympathetic to a patron that the idea of a Christmas gift for her originated in the woman's brain and there. An article in the nonexchangeable class was returned because her customer had made it unsuitable as a holiday gift, and no difficulty was placed in the way of the exchange. The girl made a personal matter of the business, and won over those who had the right to object.

I went into a small shop one morning and tried to make a purchase. The place was new to me, and none but a salesman who had the interests of the place at heart would have refused to sell me an article in which the rubber had lost some of its elasticity. That was precisely what happened, and I looked around for something else to buy, because I felt that such treatment deserved recompense. Salesmen of that caliber will never lack employment, for any man of business sense will appreciate his value. There are none too many of his class.

There is a little sample shoe parlor where a handful of pleasant girls do their best to sell goods. I imagine the profit is small and that there is no money to spend on expensive advertising. But the business is growing, since satisfied customers are pretty good advertising for any business. Where would that business be now if women had met with the treatment I saw accorded a woman in a large shoe department? The salesman did not even take the trouble to answer the question of a woman whose foot would not fit into the shoes he produced.

BETTY BRADEN.

NOW A MAJOR.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT, JR., Central figure in recent inauguration of Gen. Lley at Hartford, Conn.

New Lining for Coat.

The girl who can't afford to relapse her coat with satin, brocade, or silk may choose a fine quality of French chintz. She will be astonished at the artistic and expensive result.

She wants to get a dainty design of fine quality and in extra width. Her coat should be interlined for the midwinter and this flowered surcoat put over it. She will not feel ashamed to take off her coat at any smart house, or throw it back over a chair at a restaurant or theater.

That New Leaf.

What would the world do without New Year resolutions? We may break them immediately, but the impulse to make them is something.

The man or woman who feels there is no fresh page to turn has left hope and progress behind. Better unkept aspirations than not to aspire.

It does us all good to have one day in the year when we catch the self-improvement germ. True, it often runs its course rapidly, but the effects linger longer than we realize.

What though the new leaf is quickly blurred? Regret is less vital than indifference or self-complacency.

She who can round out the year with no pang for the past nor planning of better days ahead has reached a dangerous stage of stagnation. The New Year's resolutions may not be kept, but at least they show one capable of going higher.

Ham Fritters.

Heat to boiling point one cupful of stock. Thicken with a tablespoonful each of flour and butter cooked together, and add to it one cupful cooked chopped ham, one egg well beaten, and dry mustard and Worcestershire sauce to season. Heat thoroughly, take from fire, and cool. Make a fritter batter of one cupful of sifted flour, two tablespoonfuls of melted butter, a scant cupful of hot water, the beaten white of an egg, and a pinch of salt. Shape the ham mixture into small balls, dip in fritter batter, and fry in deep fat.

WILL DECORATE THE BALLROOM

Committee Meets to Discuss Tentative Plans.

TAFT CLASS NOT TO MARCH

Troops Returning from Cuba Will Not Participate in Parade—Boys of Woodcraft, and Phelps Club, of Paterson, N. J., Ask Places in Line, Minnesota Militia Escort Governor.

The committee on ballroom decoration, James R. Marshall, chairman, held its initial meeting yesterday afternoon at the New Willard. The committee organized for work and had an informal discussion of the plans to be pursued in preparing the room for the great social function of the Taft-Sherman inauguration.

Mr. Marshall stated to the committee that while it had not been determined where the ball was to be held, he had thought best to call the committee together and make such preparations as could be made for active operations when that should be determined. The discussion which followed was predicated upon the assumption that the function would be in the Pension Office.

Will Name Executive Committee.

By action of the committee the chairman was authorized to name an executive committee to consider several matters connected with the decorations, among them being the lighting scheme. Chairman Marshall was also empowered to act for the committee in the interval between now and the next meeting, which is subject to the call of the chairman. The sense of the meeting was that in so far as the preliminaries could be accomplished they should be begun without waiting to hear the action of Congress regarding the Pension Office.

Gen. Johnston, chief of staff, announced yesterday that the order for bringing the headquarters band and the first and second battalions of the Seventh Infantry to Washington to participate in the inauguration parade had been countermanded, and those troops will return from Cuba and proceed to their station at Fort McPherson, Ga. The reason for the change in plans is the lack of transport facilities obtainable in time to bring the troops to Washington.

Taft's Class Will Not March.

Thomas P. Morgan received word yesterday from the secretary of the class of '78 of Yale-Taft's class—that it had abandoned the plan of appearing in the inauguration parade and canceled its application for a position among the civic bodies. The class of '78 had been chosen to head the civic division of the parade, and the declination has somewhat disarranged the plans of the committee.

Mr. Morgan yesterday received an application from the cadets of Acorn Camp, Boys of Woodcraft, who desire to participate in the parade. The Boys of Woodcraft is a uniformed outfit, wearing a natty uniform of white shirts, caps, and black trousers. They carry axes which are handled much as guns, and the organization promises to perform some fine evolutions in the line of march, if allowed to do so. The cadets will have a drum corps.

Mr. S. B. Sturges received a letter yesterday from the governor of Minnesota, saying that one company of the Minnesota National Guard will attend him and his staff to Washington and appear in the parade.

Phelps Club Asks Position.

The Phelps Club, of Paterson, N. J., has applied to Thomas P. Morgan for a position in the civic division of the parade. It will have 150 uniformed men and a band of 50 pieces.

M. I. Weller, chairman of the committee on public comfort, has issued a warning to householders and those desiring to rent rooms and furnish board to beware of bogus inaugural agents, who seek to inspect rooms and otherwise try to gain entrance to houses. He says the proper inspectors will be provided with credentials and will show them on request. All others should be barred.

The committee on local transportation was reported yesterday to Chairman Steelwagen and approved by him, as follows: James M. Stoddard, chairman; E. B. Marlow, vice chairman; George Weaver, secretary; J. E. Berry, William F. Downey, D. C. Carl, H. W. Fuller, Lewis Schaffer and Charles Marsh.

Embroidered Sleeves.

One of the fancies of the day is to run the transparent flit sleeve with quantities of gold embroidery. This is put on by hand with bullion thread. It is run into straight lines, forms squares, runs in railroad track outlines, or is made up into diamonds.

Sometimes silver thread is worked alongside the gold, and the effect is quite glittering.

The woman who has a thin arm and who likes a sleeve in the ball gown can make it suitable for the most formal occasions by covering it with this metal embroidery.

Barley Soup.

Wash two tablespoonfuls barley and let it stand in cold water for an hour. Cook until soft in boiling water—it will require about two hours. Add to it three pints of soup stock and boil for an hour. Beat one egg yolk in a bowl, add half a cup of milk or cream and half a tablespoonful of butter. Add to it a little salt and a dash of pepper, a cupful of the boiling stock. Then draw the soup kettle to the back of the range and pour in this mixture, while pouring steadily, but do not let it boil again after adding the egg. Serve at once, as soon as very hot.

S. KANN-SONS & CO.
THE BUSY CORNER

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15c satin-striped BATISTE

8³/₄ a yard

Choice of 75 patterns—AND ALL PRETTY

We bought these direct from the mill and so secured a wider range of pretty patterns than would otherwise have been possible. White and navy blue groundwork, with printings in pink, blue, tan, lavender, black, and other shades. The designs are especially noteworthy and include rings, polka dots, Dresden and Vienna designs, with the striped effects interwoven with the printed color designs. Just the material to use for the making of inexpensive, good-looking waists and house dresses.

This fabric is a regular 15c quality, and is sold at such price all over the country.

While the special purchase lasts our price will be but 8³/₄ a yard. It is especially adapted to the new spring and summer 1909 styles.

First Floor—S. Kann, Sons & Co.

Art Above Weather.

In a gallery there hangs a large canvas in an imposing frame. The painting shows a waterfall in one of the States famous for startling natural scenery. The picture has occupied its present place for several years.

"Does it belong here?" asked a visitor of the man in charge.

"No more than the others you see."

"Seems to me it should be in the capitol of the State where this scenery is," said the visitor.

"It was painted for the State," replied the man in charge, "but when it was submitted to the art committee they refused to accept it."

"What was the objection?"

"You see, the sky is overcast. The artist put in a gathering storm, like an impending calamity. The art committee said it was a reflection on the reputation of the State; that a storm such as is represented was unknown in that latitude."

"Couldn't the artist put in another sky, one that accorded with the State's reputation for sunshine?"

"I suppose he could, but he refused. He said that the rumpled kicked up by the art committee warranted the storm effect on the canvas, and he refused to budge. He sent it here, and here it remains."

Decoration for a Luncheon.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

A decoration for a luncheon that is seldom seen, yet which may be made very charming, is a low silver bowl filled with pansies in all colors. If the stems are not specially long a piece of wire netting can be placed over the top of the bowl and the pansies stuck in it.

The effect is enhanced if the bowl is set on a large, round mirror, surrounded with a border of small ferns. At each place have a small pot of growing pansies, which may later be given as souvenirs. These look well if the pots are set in small paper cases made of stiff cardboard covered with silver paper.

Should there be a guest of honor, her pansies may be larger than the others, or the case can be a small silver jardiniere.

The candle shades should carry out the predominant tones of the pansies. Silver candlesticks should be used if possible. Effective shades can be made of white paper garlanded with artificial pansies.

Anchovy Salad.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Wash, skin, and bone two anchovies, put in water and soak half an hour, drain and dry them. Cut three hard boiled eggs into slices. Arrange leaves of a head of lettuce in a salad bowl. Add anchovies and sliced eggs, pour over a plain salad dressing, and serve very cold.

An Odd Test.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

One clever housekeeper has learned to outwit a milkman, whom she suspected of diluting his stock of milk. She kept in her kitchen a fine steel knitting needle, which was always in a high degree of polish.

As soon as the milk came into the house she stuck the needle lightly into the can and drew it out in an upright position. If no drop adhered to the needle that milkman heard a line of talk on watered milk that caused him to be careful how he dalled with the pump on his next visit.

It is said if there be even a little water in milk, not a drop of it will adhere to a needle so used.

Things to Know.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

That wet shoes should not be dried by the fire. If there be time it is well to dry them on shoe trees, later rubbing in a little vasoline to soften the leather.

That dress goods and laces should not be measured with a tape line, as it stretches the material. A yard stick is indispensable in every sewing room.

Johnny Cakes.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Take one and a half cups of cornmeal and one cup of flour and one heaping teaspoon of baking powder, mix all together. Take two tablespoonfuls of sugar, one teaspoon of butter, one egg, one-fourth teaspoon of salt, one-half cup of sweet milk, mix all together and bake in a hot oven about twenty minutes.

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Your figure more shapely, your health sounder by following the simple advice the "W. B. Beauty Book" offers. Many pages of health-giving advice and instructions for developing a perfect figure. A limited edition free to women writing to Weltgen Bros., 37 Broadway, New York.

A FEW REVIEWS OF THE BEST SELLER

THE WILD WIDOW

By GERTIE DE S. WENTWORTH-JAMES

New Haven Union: "The book, like the proverbial widow, is so dangerously fascinating in style that one does not care to commence to read it until they have time to finish it."

San Francisco Bulletin: "The 'Wild Widow,' by Gertie De S. Wentworth-James, is just as wild as the wild est. The searcher for the morbid under the glare of the white lights may save himself the trouble of the hunt and read this book. It seems to be a cross between Sappho, The Absintheur, The Decameron of Boccaccio and a Literary Aspiration. It might have been written by Potiphar's wife, had that lady grabbed a frenzied and unrepented pen and let her imagination have full sway."

The Cincinnati Times-Star says: "Let us introduce the 'Wild Widow,' She comes from England, where Paul 1 vol., 12mo, cloth, gilt; portrait of author. Price, \$1.50. Thousands are reading it; HAVE YOU?

At all bookellers or sent postpaid on receipt of price by the publishers.

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